

Message Text

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67

ACTION IO-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 EB-07 CIAE-00 COME-00 DODE-00

DOT-00 FMC-01 INR-07 NSAE-00 CG-00 OFA-01 DLOS-04

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FM AMEMBASSY LONDON

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2185

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PORG, IMCO

SUBJ: 27TH IMCO LEGAL COMMITTEE - WRAP-UP

1. COMMITTEE FINISHED FIRST READING OF ALL ARTICLES EXCEPT MOST IMPORTANT (4, 6, 7, 11, GOLD CLAUSE), WHICH ARE BEING SAVED FOR LATE NOVEMBER SESSION. WHERE DIFFERENCES AROSE BETWEEN DELEGATIONS, USUALLY RESULT WAS TO INCREASE PROTECTIONIST QUALITY OF INSTRUMENT ON BEHALF OF SHIPOWNERS. U.S., IN USUAL MINORITY, PRESSED FOR BALANCING OF SHIPOWNER AND CLAIMANT INTERESTS, JOINED USUALLY BY CANADA, OFTEN BY FRANCE, SOMETIMES BY AUSTRALIA AND SOME LDCS. SCANDINAVIA, UK, GREECE, LIBERIA EES AND CMI PROVIDED CONTROLLING MAJORITY, HOWEVER, AS FINAL TEXTS CLEARLY SHOW. FRENCH AND LDC POSITIONS SUGGEST THAT AT DIPLOMATIC CONFERENCE, WHERE EUROPEAN MARITIME STATES' POWER MAY BE DILUTED, SUBSTANTIAL CHANGE TO LEGAL COMMITTEE TEXT MAY BE POSSIBLE.

2. ON GOLD CLAUSE, UK GAVE STRONGLY-WORDED 1/2 HOUR ADDRESS ON NEED FOR SDRS. STATED OFFICIAL PRICE FOR GOLD WOULD DISAPPEAR WITHIN NEXT 18 MONTHS, AND THAT SYSTEM BASED ON MARKET PRICE OF GOLD TOTALLY UNSATISFACTORY. SWEDEN CONCURRED. US DREW ATTENTION TO ITS OUTLINE FOR SDRS IN GUATEMALA PROTOCOL AND GENERAL PROBLEM IN IMCO

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CONVENTIONS. NO OTHER COMMENT, BUT UK STATEMENT SEEMED

WELL RECEIVED.

3. LEGAL COMMITTEE CHOSE NOVEMBER 1-19, 1976 AS DATE
FOR DIPLOMATIC CONFERENCE ON REVISION 1957 CONVENTION.

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Message Attributes

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